of food processing units, marketing etc.

Deep Sea Fishing

216. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether eminent fisheries development scientists have suggested that deep sea marine resources should be the focus of future commercial exploitation of the Indian Ocean;

(b) whether these experts have felt that exploitation of deep and high seas for fishing is still in its infancy; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to encourage deep sea fishing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Out of a potential yeild of 3.9 million tons of marine fishery reosurces in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), the present level of exploitation is about 2.4 million tons mostly from in-shore areas upto 50 Metres depth. The contribution from deep sea fishing is about 1 per cent of the total marine production. Since vast areas in the deep sea are unexploited, harvesting of resources from the deep sea areas would be the main target for future developmental strategies.

(c) The information is enclosed as statement.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to Encourage deep sea fishing

(i) Augmentation of deep sea fishing fleet through judicious mix of indigenous, imported and chartered fishing vessels.

(ii) Provision of 33 percent subsidy on the cost of indigenously constructed deep sea fishing vessels.

(iii) Provision of loan facility on soft terms by Shipping Credit and Inevstment Company of India Limited.

(iv) Systematic and intensive survey of fishing resources in Indian Exclusive Economic Zone.

(v) Augmentation of harbour facilities at major and minor ports.

(vi) Subsidy on diesel and oil to the exporter of marine products.

(vii) Regulation of fishing by foreign vessels in the Exclusive Economic Zone and by Indian owned vessels in the territorial waters.

(viii) Training of deep sea fishing operatives for manning the fishing vessels.

Food Processing Units in Vidarbha

217. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO:
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any studies regarding the potentiality of orange production and its processing industry in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra with a view to promote exports;

(b) the number of orange processing units which are functioning in the country and how many of them are in Vidarbha and what is their production; and

(c) whether such processing units can be motivated to explore newer techniques of orange processing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) This Ministry has not made any specific study in this regard.